

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 541

By DuBois

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Billie Clift Lucas of Columbia.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Billie Clift Lucas; and

WHEREAS, Billie Lucas was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for her fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, she served her community with acumen and alacrity, earning the respect of her fellow citizens of Columbia for the exemplary quality of her work; and

WHEREAS, the daughter of the late William Thomas Clift and Grace Wachs Clift, Mrs. Lucas was born in St. Charles, Virginia; her family moved to Knoxville, where she graduated from Knoxville High School and attended the University of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, in 1965, Billie Lucas moved to Columbia, where her husband, Harold W. Lucas, bought the Chevrolet-Cadillac dealership; she immediately involved herself in her new community; and

WHEREAS, she served as cookie chairman for the Girl Scouts in Maury County, co-chair of the first McDowell School Carnival, and Mrs. Andrew Dale's chosen successor as Treasurer of the King's Daughters' School; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Lucas joined the Association for the Preservation of Tennessee Antiquities and served as a Board member, was appointed as a Trustee for the Columbia State Community College Foundation, and served for many years on the Board of the James K. Polk Memorial Association, serving as President and as Chairman of the annual Ball; she also lent her talents as Chairman of the Board of the Maury County Benefit Ball Association and served as Chairman of their annual Benefit Ball; and

WHEREAS, an avid tennis player and bridge player, Mrs. Lucas was also a member of Bay Point Yacht and Country Club in Panama City Beach, Florida, where her family has a home; and

WHEREAS, Billie Lucas was an extremely giving person who often reached out with compassion to people who life had treated unkindly; she delivered meals-on-wheels for a number of years; and

WHEREAS, she was an active and devout member of the First Presbyterian Church, which she served faithfully for many years; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Lucas was also deeply devoted to her family, and she always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, she enjoyed the loving companionship of her husband, Harold Lucas, and was the proud parent of H. Thomas Lucas, married to Tonnya; Melanie Lucas Evanko, married to Rob; Allison G. Lucas; and Julie Lucas Saxon, married to Malcolm; and

WHEREAS, she is also survived by five grandchildren, Lucas Brooks Evanko, Grace Arwin Clift Evanko, Anne Taylor Tipton, Elizabeth Clift Tipton, and Whisey Taylor; a brother, Harold Clift; two sisters, Mildred McDowell and Audrey Carey; several nieces, nephews, and cousins; and special caregiver, Donna Noland; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Billie Lucas leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all her chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Billie Clift Lucas, reflecting fondly upon her impeccable character and her stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mrs. Lucas.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.